



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of ) Examiner: Not Assigned  
Burbank et al. ) Group Art Unit: Not Assigned  
For: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR** ) Customer No.: 23422  
**SECURING MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS TO** )  
**DESIRED LOCATIONS IN A PATIENT'S** )  
**BODY** )  
Serial No.: 10/004,787 )  
Filed: December 4, 2001 ) **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
Atty. Docket. No.: 9619-1012 )

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above application as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

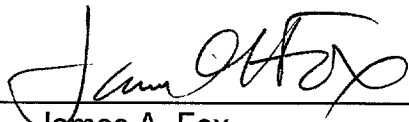
On page 1, please replace paragraph one with the following:

This application is a continuation of copending patent application Serial No. 09/146,185, filed September 1, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of patent application Serial No. 09/057,303, filed April 13, 1998, which claims benefit to provisional patent application Serial No. 60/076,973, filed March 3, 1998, all of which applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and from which priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. §§119(e) and 120.

**REMARKS**

A marked-up version to show changes made is attached hereto. No new matter is added by this amendment. Consideration and entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

This application is a continuation of copending [U.S. Patent Application] patent application Serial No. 09/146,185, filed September 1, 1998, [by Burbank et al.,] which is a continuation-in-part of [copending U.S. Patent] patent application Serial No. 09/057,303, filed April 13, 1998, [by Burbank et al., which is a non-provisional application of U.S. Provisional Patent Application] which claims benefit to provisional patent application Serial No. 60/076,973, filed March 3, 1998, [by Burbank et al., priority to which applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §§119(e) and 120 as applicable] all of which applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and from which priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. §§119(e) and 120.

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